

A woman with dark hair and a purple top is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is wearing large hoop earrings and a purple sleeveless top with a draped neckline. The background is dark and out of focus.

THE  
KAPPA  
ALPHA

# THETA

MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2009

## SMART COOKIES!

ROBYN GUNN,

TE/WESTERN ONTARIO,  
AND FRIENDS HAVE  
CONCOCTED A RECIPE  
FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS



# Defining the Indefinable

"Being a Theta is an intangible. It can't be weighed, measured, decorated, remodeled, bought, sold, leased, inherited, or sometimes put into words. It has no dollar value. It is more a feeling than a state of being. The badge worn is a sign of pride in the concept. The vows taken are a symbol of commitments made and received. Commitments that last forever."

These words were written by then-Fraternity president Norma Anderson Jorgensen, Gamma Zeta/Connecticut, in 1971. Thirty-eight years later and 139 years after our founding, it can still be difficult to define Kappa Alpha Theta. Although it is easy to simply list tangible benefits of membership—such as close friendships and leadership opportunities—it is much harder to express the essence of Theta and what being a member truly means.

*True Promise* is the brand identity for Kappa Alpha Theta that was introduced at Grand Convention 2008 and on the pages of the Autumn 2008 issue of this magazine. This brand was conceived as an expression, a reflection of what our Fraternity is and what it stands for. But what exactly is that?

Separated from the phrase *True Promise* and taken by itself, the word *promise* has layers of meaning. It is a vow, the two-way pledge made between each new member and the Fraternity upon initiation. Secondly, *promise* encompasses the idea of possibility—the potential within each of us for social, intellectual, and moral growth. And finally, *promise* applies to the tremendous potential for our Fraternity as a collective whole.

When taken by itself, the word *true* communicates a sense of genuineness. Chapter to chapter, campus to campus, new members consistently say Thetas are real, unpretentious, and authentic.

Taken together, *true promise* suggests warmth and vibrancy and the joy of belonging to Kappa Alpha Theta.

We who work on this magazine hope that every issue conveys something of the vibrancy, distinction, and *promise* of both our members and our organization. In this issue, we think, several of our features especially exemplify true promise. We encourage

you to turn to page 15 to read "Why I'm (Still) a Fraternity Woman." In an article that originally appeared as an entry in her blog, Jane Shepherd Dick, Epsilon Mu/Princeton, does a beautiful job of describing the joy, challenge, commitment, and sense of purpose that Theta gives her, 20 years after her initiation.

We hope you'll also enjoy "A Woman of True Promise," a new feature that we introduce on page 21. Over the next several years, it will give us a chance to meet a number of women who personify Theta's ideals.

We have two articles in this issue that are especially relevant in these challenging economic times. "Money Morsels," beginning on page 18, profiles Robyn Gunn, Gamma Epsilon/Western Ontario, who cofounded a money group called Smart Cookies. Their recipe for financial stability resonates with those who see their TV appearances, visit their website, or read their latest book. On a more somber note, "Economic Abuse," on page 24, is a wake-up article about a little-known facet of domestic violence.

For those who really like to plan in advance, we announce the venue and dates of Grand Convention 2010 (page 16); for those who feel a little out of touch with the Fraternity, we suggest a way to reconnect (page 22). And—of course—we offer all our regular features, including Site to See, Through the Years, and the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation.

We hope you agree that the Summer 2009 issue of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* fulfills its promise.

Loyally,

*Liz Appel Rinck*

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Connections Deadlines: Autumn July 11  
Winter October 23  
Spring January 31  
Summer April 11

Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity, founded at Indiana Asbury College (DePauw University), Greencastle, Indiana, on January 27, 1870, is the first Greek-letter fraternity known among women.

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FRATERNITY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
ASSOCIATION



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## ON THE COVER

Robyn Gunn, ΓE/Western Ontario,  
cofounder of the money group Smart Cookies.



AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY

29

### We regret the following errors:

Members of the 50-year Theta group of the Atlanta Alumnae Chapter (Carol Dendy Axnick, Jeanne Sawyer Aycock, Mary Virginia Baughman, Rowena Jones Clyatt, Mary Brooke DeLoache, Peggy Dee LaMater Eades, Sally-Bruce Blackford McClatchey, Lois Brown Taylor, Jane Brollig VanHoven) were omitted from the Spring 2009 Honor and Memorial Gifts section.

The contact e-mail for the Carmel, Calif., vacation home listed in the Spring 2009 Connections section was misprinted. The correct address appears on page 30 of this issue.

**Notice:** Because Kappa Alpha Theta is not an officially recognized student group at Harvard or Santa Clara University, these schools prohibit using "Harvard" or "Santa Clara" in any published reference to our Zeta Xi or Eta Lambda Chapters.

### KAPPA ALPHA THETA MISSION STATEMENT

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW,  
KAPPA ALPHA THETA EXISTS TO NURTURE  
EACH MEMBER THROUGHOUT HER COLLEGE  
AND ALUMNAE EXPERIENCE AND TO OFFER  
LIFELONG OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL,  
INTELLECTUAL, AND MORAL GROWTH  
AS SHE MEETS THE HIGHER AND BROADER  
DEMANDS OF MATURE LIFE.



## THE MAGAZINE ONLINE

You can do more with the online version of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* than just read it.

Now you can e-mail it to friends, share it on your favorite social networking site, add comments, and more! You can even submit articles or ideas for articles online.

After you've logged into [www.kappaalphatheta.org](http://www.kappaalphatheta.org), click *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* in the Common Quick Links box to the left.



## ZETA CHI CHAPTER CLOSING

Grand Council regrets to announce the closing of the Zeta Chi Chapter at Johns Hopkins, effective April 14. Recent chapter activities constituted serious violations of Fraternity policies and were contrary to the Fraternity's basic principles. While Theta's presence at Johns Hopkins has ended for the foreseeable future, the Fraternity values Zeta Chi's alumnae, who continue to be an asset to the Fraternity.

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS!

Congratulations to the following active alumnae and college chapters, which are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2009.

### 100 years

AM/Missouri  
AN/Montana  
AO/Oklahoma  
Denver Alumnae Chapter  
Lincoln Alumnae Chapter  
St. Louis Alumnae Chapter  
San Francisco Alumnae Chapter  
Topeka Alumnae Chapter

### 50 years

ΔE/Arizona State  
ΔZ/Emory

# reunions

## REUNIONS ANNOUNCED

### K/KAPPA

The women of Kappa Chapter at Kansas, graduating class of 1959, will gather at the chapter facility to celebrate their 50th reunion at homecoming Sept. 26, 2009 (1433 Tennessee). Members may contact the alumnae chapter relations chairman Maddy Huggins ([madhugs7@ku.edu](mailto:madhugs7@ku.edu)) with questions or for additional information.

### AN/MONTANA

The Alpha Nu Chapter will celebrate 100 years of sisterhood during homecoming, Oct. 9-10. Festivities will include facility and campus tours, ritual, Friday evening social, homecoming parade breakfast, Griz football game, and the gala event: a centennial dinner, program, and silent auction Saturday evening. Check out [www.umtheta.org](http://www.umtheta.org) for more information, or contact Lori Warden, [alphanu100th@gmail.com](mailto:alphanu100th@gmail.com) or 406-360-2825.

### ΑΞ/OREGON

Alpha Xi Chapter will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of its founding at the University of Oregon. Events will be held in both Portland and Eugene in the fall of 2009; most likely around mid-October. You can find the most current information on the Portland Alumnae Chapter website: [www.portlandthetas.com/alphaxi100.html](http://www.portlandthetas.com/alphaxi100.html). Or send an email to [oregontheta100@gmail.com](mailto:oregontheta100@gmail.com) and we'll be sure you stay connected.

### ΑΧ/PURDUE (1966)

The Alpha Chi new member class of 1966 will hold a reunion September 11-13 at the Omni Severin Hotel in Indianapolis. The plans include an informal reception Friday evening, a trip to Purdue, shopping or visits to museums, followed by dinner on Saturday, and a farewell breakfast on Sunday. For more information, contact Barbara Granadillo, [barbara@granadillos.com](mailto:barbara@granadillos.com) or 317-850-6972.

### 25 years

EO/Randolph-Macon  
EP/Bucknell  
EP/Lehigh  
Houston Northwest Alumnae Chapter  
Williamsburg Alumnae Chapter

## THE REAL SCOOP

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) launched the second in a series of websites to better inform students and parents about the "real" sorority experience. Sorority IQ ([www.sorority-iq.com](http://www.sorority-iq.com)) is a sister site to The Sorority Life ([www.sororitylife.com](http://www.sororitylife.com)), which launched in November. The online project is planned through the end of 2009.

## STAY CONNECTED

Online communities of people who share interests and/or activities, or who are interested in exploring the interests and activities of others—those are online social networks (OSN). For many Thetas, OSN provide a vehicle for reconnecting with long-lost friends, staying in touch with those who have moved away, or finding an instant connection when relocating to an unfamiliar city. Others find them useful for communicating within a college chapter or inviting alumnae to a local event. And members of disestablished chapters are thankful for the chance to maintain



#### AX/PURDUE (1969)

Plans are underway for the class of 1969 to meet in South Carolina in September. If you are a "lost member" of our class, please contact Linda Weaver Roberts via inCircle.

#### ΔE/ARIZONA STATE

The Delta Epsilon Chapter is planning a reunion for members who pledged between 1974 and 1980. Activities will take place Oct. 2-4 in Phoenix. Additional details to follow. For more information or to assist with planning, contact Jody Falk Pokorski, [jpokorski@swlaw.com](mailto:jpokorski@swlaw.com) or 602-957-1538.

#### EO/RANDOLPH MACON

Please save the date of October 17 as we celebrate 25 years at Randolph-Macon College. We will honor Dale Lively Challoner at a memorial dedication along the Trivette Alumni Walkway. There will also be a reception at the chapter facility and a tent in the homecoming tailgate area. Please make sure your mailing address is up-to-date with the Fraternity to receive your invitation.

Please contact Lauren Cox, alumnae relations chairman, [LaurenCox@rmc.edu](mailto:LaurenCox@rmc.edu) for more information.

#### ΕΠ/BUCKNELL

The Epsilon Pi Chapter at Bucknell University will be celebrating their 25th anniversary on October 24, 2009. Please join us over homecoming weekend for a night of socializing and memories. For more information, please contact Chelsea Burghoff, vice-president public relations ([chelsea.burghoff@bucknell.edu](mailto:chelsea.burghoff@bucknell.edu)).

#### ZH/WOFFORD

The Zeta Eta Chapter at Wofford College is celebrating 20 years of sisterhood in 2009. Join us for Homecoming weekend, October 2-4, for brunch, Pansy Post, and football against Georgia Southern. Share memories and reconnect during brunch Saturday morning at the Piedmont Club.

### PLANNING A REUNION?

If you are trying to locate Thetas from your chapter for a reunion, place a reunion notice in *The Magazine*! Send a brief notice to Reunions, *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Be sure to include a contact name, phone number, and e-mail address.

Notices for reunions to be held May through July must be received by January 31; for August through October, received by April 11; for November through January, received by July 11; and for February through April, by October 23.



### #1 IN SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to our college chapters that ranked first in scholarship at their schools during the fall 2008 term!

H/Michigan  
M/Allegheny  
N/Hanover  
Φ/Pacific  
ΔE/Brown  
ΔH/Vanderbilt  
ΔΔ/Washington  
ΔM/Missouri  
ΔO/Oklahoma  
ΔP/South Dakota  
ΔY/Washburn University  
BZ/Oklahoma State  
BM/Nevada  
BO/Iowa  
ΓΘ/Carnegie Mellon  
ΓP/UC Santa Barbara  
ΓT/Tulsa  
ΔΔ/Whitman  
ΔE/Arizona State  
EH/Centre  
EI/Westminster  
ΕΠ/Bucknell  
ΕΩ/Washington & Jefferson  
ZH/Wofford College  
ZP/UC San Diego  
ZZ/Ohio Northern  
ZY/UT Dallas  
ZZ/Loyola Marymount  
HI/San Diego  
HM/Occidental  
HO/North Florida  
HP/James Madison

the bond they formed with their sisters.

The Fraternity provides a number of online social networking opportunities for members.

Kappa Alpha Theta inCircle is a secure online social and professional networking tool exclusively for Thetas. inCircle helps you find old friends, meet new ones with similar interests, hobbies, or professions, and communicate with them in a number of simple, secure, and valuable ways. Through inCircle, you can dynamically interact with other Thetas all over the world. And you can now log on to inCircle from inside Facebook.

Speaking of Facebook, Theta's official Facebook page keeps members posted on Theta news and also hosts a number of fun tools such as photo albums, polls, and events.

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: "What are you doing?" Follow Bettie Locke on Twitter for up-to-the-minute news from chapters and members.

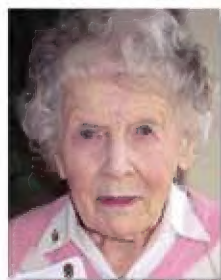
To access inCircle, Facebook, or Twitter, log into the Theta website and click the Community tab.



## CORRESPONDENCE

### SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

The Seattle Alumna Chapter celebrated its 100-year anniversary at our Holiday Luncheon in December.



Alice Allen. Marian addressed everyone and told the very special history of her life as a Theta, as well as anecdotes about Alice Allen and Bettie Locke. Marian was presented with yellow roses on behalf of the Foundation and from the "Way-out" group of SAC, which Marian founded years ago.

Following a beautiful brunch, we recognized seventy-five year Theta Marian Albaugh Short, Alpha/DePauw. Initiated in 1934, Marion is the grand-niece of Theta founder

**JANICE SILVA**  
AΞ/OREGON

I enjoyed receiving the Spring 2009 issue of *The Magazine* and am again pleased the magazine chooses to list the names of 75-year Thetas. I wish the names of 80-year Thetas might also be included.

Shirley Scales Weber was initiated into Alpha Theta Chapter at Texas in 1929. She was active in the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter until reaching an age that made it impractical for her to participate. She enjoys receiving her magazine at Poydras House in New Orleans.

Her daughter, Betty Weber Galloway, pledged Theta and was initiated into the Alpha Eta Chapter at Vanderbilt in 1956. I vote to include the names of 80 year Thetas!

**ROSE FRASER JACOBSON**  
AΦ/NEWCOMB COLLEGE



My mother, Marian A. Bryant Cabbage, turned 100 years young on September 20. She is in good health and living in an assisted living facility

in Tulsa, Okla.

Mom was initiated in 1929 at the Alpha Omicron Chapter at the University of Oklahoma. She married Dennis O. Cabbage in her hometown of Cushing, Okla. They were together for 54 years, until he passed away in 1988. They raised four sons, and Mom also has seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, with another expected in mid-2009. One of her grand-daughters, Emily Cabbage, was initiated into the Epsilon Iota Chapter at Westminster.

**DENNIS CABBAGE**

### THETA THOUGHTS

It was an unexpected (Can it possibly be 50 years?) and also delightful surprise to receive my 50th anniversary pansy pin recently. Thank you so much!

Yes, I have many wonderful memories with Theta sisters in the past, and I have many friendships continuing today through our alumnae chapter and at our annual Founders Day brunch, where I was recognized this year for my special anniversary.

**ANN WEATHERBY BEESON**  
BK/DRAKE

How lovely to receive the beautiful commemorative pansy pin for my 75 years of membership.

Kappa Alpha Theta has been a way of life since my pledgeship in the fall of 1933. It has been a source of friendship, an opportunity to know and assist others, and to learn.

Membership in Kappa Alpha Theta has been a precious jewel in my life. Thank you to all the members who have built this treasure.

**ELAINE BJORKLUND GROUND**  
BO/IOWA

### MAGAZINE KUDOS

The Winter 2008-09 edition of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* was outstanding! As a 77-year-old, I am thrilled to read about my young sisters and their brave and fruitful adventures in life. How creative they are!

**NELL SMITH ERNST**  
B/INDIANA

### WRITE TO US!

Do you have a comment about an article in this or any other issue of *The Magazine*? Do you know an accomplished Theta who would be a good subject for a profile article? Do you have a Theta issue on your mind?

Then let us hear from you! We are pleased to receive letters from our readers; we value your input. Correspondence by regular mail or e-mail may be sent to the editor. (See page 2 for addresses.)

### THE MAGAZINE HONORED

In the annual awards competition of the Fraternity Communications Association (FCA), *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* was honored in two categories. The graphic design of "Shall We Dance?" (Winter 2008-09), a Through the Years feature about dance cards in the Fraternity archives, was awarded third place in the two-page or less design category. "Celebrating the Center" (Summer 2008), about best-selling author and cancer-survivor Kelly Corrigan, Epsilon Psi/Richmond, was awarded second place in the personality profile writing category. ♦



50- and 75-year Thetas are recognized with a pansy pin gift from the Fraternity. Above is the 50-year pin.



## Who We Are

Founded in 1960 to raise funds to support philanthropic and educational opportunities for the members of the Fraternity, the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation has become a vital source of support for members and the Fraternity at large. Created by Thetas, for Thetas, the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation is dedicated to raising money through our members and friends to strengthen our fraternity via scholarships, educational and leadership opportunities, and the support of sisters in times of need.



## Keeping Up with the Foundation – Online!

Come find out how you can GIVE, RECEIVE, and SHARE at [www.kappaalphathetafoundation.org](http://www.kappaalphathetafoundation.org). You can also find out about all of these important Foundation happenings and much, much more!

### Looking for the Honorary and Memorial Gifts Listing?



Look no further! Honor, memorial, and celebration gifts are available on the Foundation website. Click on the **GIVE** button to visit our **Hall of Honor** and to view the listing by month. The Foundation will publish a complete list of our 2009 honor, memorial and celebration gifts in April 2010 as part of Foundation Awareness Month.

### Spread the Widest Influence for Good with the Foundation



Are you or your chapter interested in leadership training and other educational opportunities that will help you make a difference around the corner or across the globe? Let the Foundation help you! Foundation grant applications and information are available on the Foundation website - click on the **RECEIVE** button.

### Foundation Tweeting & Facebooking!



We're having a blast interacting with Thetas and friends through the social networking world! Come be a part of the fun! Be sure to follow "ThetaFoundation" on Twitter, friend "Evelyn Widman Tunnicliffe" (first Foundation president) on Facebook, and join the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation Facebook Cause so you can keep in touch with us, too.

### Interested in Learning More?



We have a variety of Foundation information and resources online in the **OUR STORY** section of the Foundation website, including: Foundation history, chapter educational presentations and hand outs, and the most recent issues of the Foundation Publication.

**We're Here For You.** Don't have access to the web or prefer to call or write? No problem. Reach us at:

**Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation**  
8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268  
toll-free: 1.800.KAO.1870

KAPPA ALPHA THETA  
FOUNDATION

# Theta Blogs

(web)**blog** (n.): A blog is a personal diary. A daily pulpit. A collaborative space. A political soapbox. A breaking-news outlet. A collection of links. Your own private thoughts. Memos to the world. (from Blogger[tm])

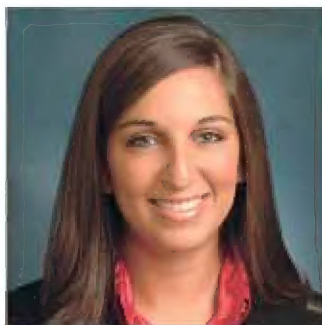
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**Read the blogs posted by our very own Thetas!**



**Alumna**

Lisa Olney,  
ΔE/Arizona State,  
District III ADO and past  
president of Westchester  
Alumnae Chapter



**ELC**

Taryn Dorfman,  
HΘ/Central Florida



**Collegian**

Emily Garvey,  
junior at  
HΠ/Case Western Reserve

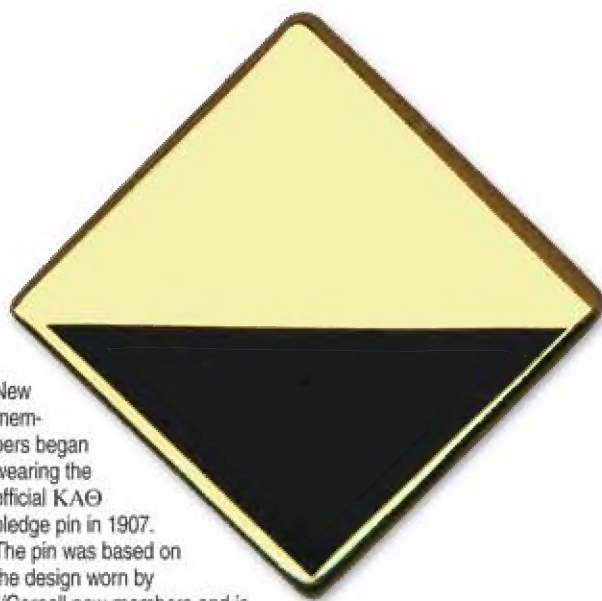
**Just go to [Learn About Theta > Community](#).**

A few times a week, they are posting updates about their lives in Theta – interesting sisters they meet, how becoming a member of the Fraternity has impacted their lives, memories of their own Theta days, and more.

We've added a comment feature as well so that you can share feedback and thoughts. (Login required.)

*[kappaalphatheta.org](http://kappaalphatheta.org)*





New members began wearing the official KΑΘ pledge pin in 1907. The pin was based on the design worn by I/Cornell new members and is still the pledge pin of today.

# RECRUITMENT RESULTS

• 2008-2009 ACADEMIC YEAR •

Congratulations to the following chapters that pledged quota during the 2008–2009 academic year. The following information was provided via chapters submitting the Recruitment & Panhellenic Report.

Kappa Alpha Theta encourages all chapters to pledge qualified legacies.

## DISTRICT I

A/DePauw  
Γ/Butler\*  
Δ/Illinois  
H/Michigan  
Ψ/Wisconsin  
AΧ/Purdue  
AΨ/Lawrence  
BΠ/Michigan State  
EΦ/Chicago

## DISTRICT II

ΓΔ/Ohio Wesleyan  
M/Allegheny  
AΤ/Cincinnati  
BΤ/Denison  
BΦ/Penn State  
ΓΘ/Carnegie-Mellon\*\*  
ΓΥ/Miami  
EΠ/Bucknell  
EΩ/Washington & Jefferson  
ZΣ/Ohio Northern  
HΠ/Case Western Reserve\*

## DISTRICT III

X/Syracuse  
I/Cornell  
AΕ/Brown  
BΨ/McGill  
ΓΖ/Connecticut  
EΤ/Yale  
EΥ/Columbia  
ZΜ/MIT\*\*  
ZΞ/~  
HΞ/Quinnipiac

## DISTRICT IV

BΛ/William & Mary\*  
ΓΜ/Maryland\*  
EΜ/Princeton\*  
ZΙ/Washington & Lee  
EΡ/James Madison

## DISTRICT V

AΗ/Vanderbilt  
BΝ/Florida State  
ΓΔ/Georgia  
ΓΙ/Kentucky\*  
ΔΖ/Emory\*  
ΔΘ/Florida  
ΔΟ/Alabama  
ΔΦ/Clemson  
EΗ/Centre College  
ZΗ/Wofford  
ZΛ/College of Charleston  
HΘ/Central Florida  
EΟ/North Florida\*

## DISTRICT VI

AΘ/Texas  
AΟ/Oklahoma  
AΦ/Tulane  
BΖ/Oklahoma State  
ΓΤ/Tulsa  
ΓΦ/Texas Tech  
ΓΨ/Texas Christian  
ΔΩ/Texas A&M

## DISTRICT VII

Ο/USC  
BΔ/Arizona  
BΜ/Nevada\*  
BΞ/UCLA  
ΓΡ/UC Santa Barbara  
ΓΣ/San Diego State\*  
ZΘ/Cal Poly  
ZΡ/UC San Diego\*  
ZΩ/Loyola Marymount  
HΙ/San Diego\*  
HΜ/Occidental  
HΣ/Chapman

## DISTRICT VIII

Ω/UC Berkeley  
ΦΔ/Stanford  
ΑΝ/Montana  
ΑΣ/Washington State  
BΘ/Idaho  
BΧ/Alberta\*\*  
ΔΙ/Puget Sound  
ΖΝ/UC Davis

## DISTRICT IX

K/Kansas  
P/Nebraska\*  
Υ/Minnesota  
ΑΜ/Missouri  
ΑΦ/North Dakota  
ΑΡ/South Dakota  
BΚ/Drake  
BΟ/Iowa  
ΓΝ/North Dakota State  
ΓΠ/Iowa State  
ΔΗ/Kansas State  
ΕΙ/Westminster

## DISTRICT X\*\*\*

ΗΚ/John Carroll  
ΔΥ/Eastern Kentucky  
ΖΥ/UT Dallas\*\*  
ΖΦ/Pepperdine  
ΗΗ/College of Idaho

\* Indicates chapters that pledged 60% or more of the Theta legacies participating in their respective schools' recruitment.

\*\* Indicates chapters pledging 100% of Theta legacies participating in recruitment.

\*\*\* These chapters are participating in a pilot program to test a new officer structure.



## SNAPSHOTS



**Lindsay Sell, BT/Colorado State**, was recognized with two awards at the 2008 Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA) annual meeting. The Gayle Webb New Professional Award recognized Sell for outstanding contributions to the field of campus

advising as an AFA member during her first two years of professional employment, and the Outstanding Volunteer award recognizes outstanding contributions to the association.



**Susan Sturgeon Cortabitarte, B.S./Arizona**, and her nanny/business partner have launched Phat Flops ([www.phatflops.com](http://www.phatflops.com)), a company that customizes and embellishes Brazilian flip-flops. Cortabitarte has even created a line of customized Theta flip-flops!



**McCall Clifton Wilder, ΓΔ/Georgia**, is founder and president of McCall Wilder Designs, Atlanta's first couture children's boutique and atelier. Wilder was invited to bring her designs to the "Boom Boom Room," the exclusive event for celebrity parents that

kicked off the Golden Globes festivities. Wilder's designs were picked up by such celebrity parents as Gossip Girl's Kellie Rutherford, *Sex in the City*'s Chris Noth, Tim Allen, Charlie Sheen, and Anne Heche, among others.

**Kelsey Erickson, ΑΠ/North Dakota**, competed in the 58th Annual Miss USA Pageant on April 19. Erickson won the title of Grand County USA and went on to win Miss North Dakota 2009. She is a senior majoring in nursing.



Ad Hoc Legal founder and CEO, **Beth Sanders Moore, ΔΩ/Texas A&M**, along with her husband, Jess Moore, received the 2009 Loving Hearts Caring Hands Award given by The Chaplaincy Fund and The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

The Moores were honored for bringing attention to the importance of spiritual care to cancer survivorship.

**Susan Stickney Rohrer, IT/Rollins**, founded Children of Tanzania ([www.childrenoftanzania.com](http://www.childrenoftanzania.com)) to provide educational support to children living in impoverished areas of Tanzania, focusing on helping children access and stay within the educational system and giving children the possibility of a successful future. Projects include a school lunch program feeding 400 children a day, providing school supplies and clothing, and granting water wells and rain harvesting tanks to free children from hauling water.

**Glenda McCormick Jones, ΑΞ/Oregon**, a member of Assistance League of Salem (Ore.), was award-

ed the prestigious Ada Edwards Laughlin Award. Award criteria states that the recipient be a chapter member who has held membership for a significant number of years and contributed outstanding "behind the scenes" service. This award has only been presented five times in the chapter's 45-year history.

**Romy Fineroff Taormina, ΖΘ/Cal Polytechnic State**, is co-founder of Psi Health Solutions, the maker of Psi Bands. Psi Bands are FDA-approved acupressure wrist bands for the relief of nausea due to morning sickness, motion sickness, anesthesia, or chemotherapy. Psi Bands are available at various drug and other stores.



**Christine Thompson Briede, ΔΟ/Alabama**, one of its 2008 Women of the Year. Briede is the only female among four co-owners of Loubat Equipment Co., a food service equipment company, and in 2004, she was voted president of the company.

**Margann Bennett, Κ/Kansas**, was one of six Kansas lawyers to receive the Kansas Bar Association's Outstanding Service Award, recognizing lawyers and judges who have significantly advanced the administration of justice in the legal profession.

**Anthonette Pena, ΖΘ/Cal Polytechnic State**, is one of 15 teachers selected from a nationwide pool to receive the 2008-2009 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship. The program provides elementary and secondary school science, math and technology teachers with the opportunity to serve in the public policy or national education arena. Pena, an eighth grade science teacher in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., will serve her fellowship at the National Science Foundation.



**Tara Turnure, ΑΑ/Washington**, was crowned Miss Washington 2009, and competed in the 2009 Miss USA pageant.



**Kingsley Grafft, ΖΝ/UC Davis**, was honored for developing Greeks Against Sexual Assault (GASA), a sexual assault prevention and awareness curriculum that is being used by UC Davis and other universities nationwide. The program aims to eliminate sexual

and dating violence by raising awareness and prevention.

**Erica Von Trapp, ΒΞ/UCLA**, has co-founded Green the Greeks, a university organization that represents about 500 Greek-system members who are fighting to make their chapter facilities more sustainable. The group has encouraged the installation of fluorescent lights, automatic light timers, and recycling bins in facilities as well as the elimination of Styrofoam plates.

**Justine Hebert Sweeney, ΔΩ/Texas A&M**, is founder of Sweeney Media Group, a boutique marketing and public relations firm located in Frisco, Texas. The company was awarded the Frisco Chamber of Commerce's Community Partner of the Year award for sharing resources, time, and talent to better the community, donating professional services and revenue back to local charities.



**Denae Wood, ΒΖ/Oklahoma State**, spent six weeks in the Dominican Republic with Young Life Youth Ministries. During her ministry, Woods worked in the kitchen of a youth camp, put on a Young Life Club for teens, and painted a family's home.

**Yvonne Wickstrom Larsen, ΓΣ/San Diego State**, has been named Mrs. San Diego for her longtime service to the city. Larsen has been especially active in education, serving as president of the San Diego Unified School district board and the California State Board of Education.

**June Taylor Kroeschell, ΑΨ/Lawrence**, was selected by *n* Magazine as one of the magazine's eight "Women of Style," in recognition of the accomplishments of extraordinary women in the Naples, Fla., community.

**Patricia Atwater Bender, Ρ/Nebraska**, has founded Relish! ([www.relishrelish.com](http://www.relishrelish.com)), a menu planning service that has grown to more than 3,000 subscribers. Each week, subscribers choose the meals they'd like to make for the week, a grocery list is tabulated and they have everything they need for a week of satisfying and nutritious meals. Relish! has a new spin-off, a menu-planning service for the gluten-free market, [www.gfreecuisine.com](http://www.gfreecuisine.com).

**Allison Gardner Martin, Τ/Northwestern**, has accepted a position as communications director for Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway. Martin previously served as deputy communications director for the Louisville mayor.

**Megan Deputy Baughman, Β/Indiana**, was recognized by Indiana University as the recipient of the 22nd Annual Lewis S. Armstrong Award, an honor given by the School of Business and Economics at IU South Bend to an individual from Elkhart County who has made an outstanding business and civic contribution.



**Kelsey Frasier, ΔΗ/Kansas State**, shared her Theta pride on the Great Wall of China in her "Memoirs of a Theta" T-shirt.





This year, Alpha Gamma Chapter participated in Ohio State's BuckeyeThon, a 14-hour dance marathon to support Nationwide Children's Hospital and the Children's Miracle Network. Out of the university's entire Greek system, Alpha Gamma raised more money than any other organization with \$3,000.

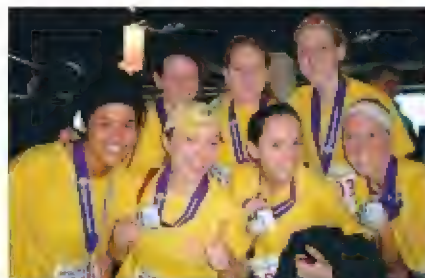


Zeta Sigma Chapter at Ohio Northern held an Easter egg hunt for the children of the Ada (Ohio) community.



Alpha Tau/Cincinnati members attended the university's first-ever Dance Marathon, an event that raised awareness and funds for pediatric cancer and the Cincinnati Children's Medical Center. Alpha Tau collegians, along with other members of the campus community, raised more than \$8,500 at the event. The women also received a special award for their spirit, drive, and continuous dancing throughout the event!

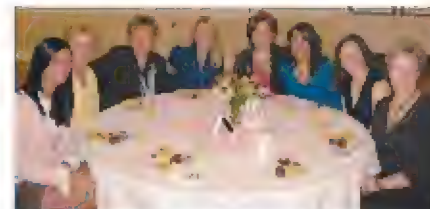
Tau Chapter at Northwestern had a very impressive showing at the university's Dance Marathon event. Twenty-two of the chapter women danced in the event and many others served on planning committees. The team used a letter and e-mail writing campaign, a Valentine's Day rose sale, and an innovative online fund-raising tool developed by Northwestern students to raise \$19,268!



Members of Psi Chapter at Wisconsin participated in Hustle Up the Hancock, a fund-raiser for the Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago. The women climbed 94 floors in the John Hancock Building, and all agreed that although it was a tough climb, it was worth it to help out such a great cause.



More than \$3,000 was raised at Zeta Eta Chapter's Pig Pickin' for CASA at Wofford College. The chapter served barbecue to more than 321 attendees!



Zeta Sigma Chapter held its biannual Mother/Daughter Banquet. The collegians invited their mothers to share in a day of high tea and a bridal fashion show, in which each collegian wore her mother's wedding dress, followed by a slideshow presentation of the chapter's activities over the past year.

Beta Omicron Chapter at Iowa was recently honored at the university's Dance Marathon 2009 as the Greek organization with the most participating members on campus. Dance Marathon was founded at Iowa in 1994, and over the past 15 years, the event has raised more than \$7 million for youth cancer victims and their families.

The women of Beta Nu Chapter at Florida State were involved in all aspects of the university's Dance Marathon event, from fund-raising to participating in committees, from family relations to morale. Beta Nu had 46 registered dancers and raised more than \$15,000 for Children's Miracle Network. All-in-all, Dance Marathon raised a total of \$375,000!

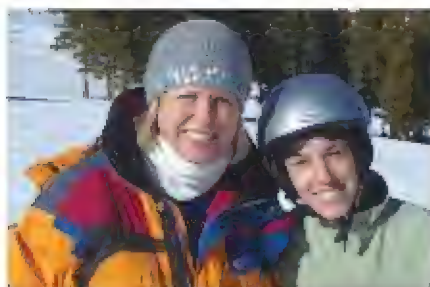
The women of Eta Omicron Chapter at North Florida, along with Kappa Deltas from their university, came together early on a Saturday morning for a community clean-up on Jacksonville Beach.

Alpha Chapter at DePauw has gone green! To take a step toward making the earth a greener, more sustainable place to live, the chapter has decided to replace paper and Styrofoam cups, plates and bowls with new "trash-free" dinner wear. Each Theta was given a water bottle or a coffee mug to discourage use of disposable alternatives, and the chapter also placed six recycle bins throughout the house to encourage recycling.

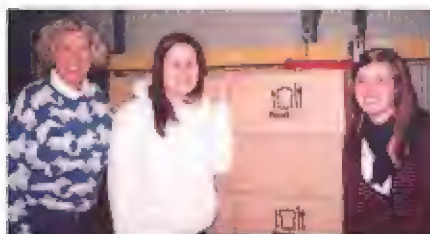


Kate Voegelé,  $\Gamma\Upsilon$ /Miami, had a concert at Newport Music Hall in Columbus, Ohio. Members of Gamma Upsilon were in attendance, supporting their favorite artist and fellow Theta sister.





**Jami Nelson Leahy and Heidi Bielenberg Pollmann**, both of Delta Eta Chapter at Kansas State, met for a day of skiing in Breckenridge, Colo.



**Laurie McGregor Connor**, Gamma/Ohio Wesleyan; **Jessica Rannow**, Psi/Wisconsin; and **Annie McCabe**, Alpha/Ohio State, packed food boxes for the Mid-Ohio Food Bank as part of a Columbus (OH) alumnae Panhellenic service project.

**Mary Gallegly Deka**, an OB/GYN in Phoenix, Ariz., delivered baby girl Kathryn Stace Rogers to **Tracie Matorian Rogers**. Rogers was Deka's Theta "mother" when the two were members of Beta Delta Chapter at Arizona.

From June 27-28, **Amanda Kasper** and **Sandy Myers**, both alumnae of Beta Kappa Chapter at Drake, embarked on Out of the Darkness Overnight, an 18-mile walk to raise funds and awareness for suicide prevention, education, research programs, and support of survivors of suicide loss. The women made the decision to become involved after one of their own Theta sisters took her life in 2008. To learn more about The Overnight, visit [www.TheOvernight.org](http://www.TheOvernight.org).



**Victoria Box Emmons**, **Twyla Bruce Powers**, and **Lynn Owens Nelson**, all alumnae of Beta Nu Chapter at Florida State, rekindled their friendship after 40 years at a 2008 Beta Nu reunion in San Francisco. The women now feel as though they've never been apart!



**Jenny Brichler**, **Carlene Benz**, **Morgan McKim**, **Caroline Nebel**, and **Molly Yee**, all Alpha Gamma collegians from Ohio State, surround **Kitten White Ledman** (center), AG/Ohio State, at a Columbus (OH) Alumnae Chapter potluck dinner at the Alpha Gamma facility.



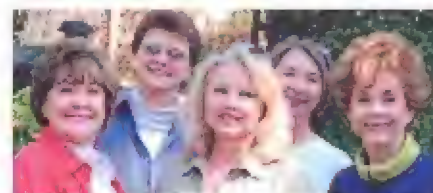
At its February service project meeting, the Chicago Northwest Suburban Alumnae Chapter made "hearts from the heart" heart-shaped fleece pillows for cancer patients at Alexian Brothers Medical Center in Elk Grove Village, Ill.



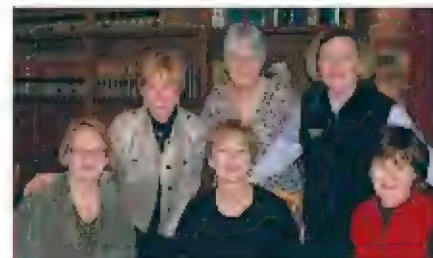
**Mary Baggett Failla**, **Micki Owenby Ingram**, and **Jamie McCarty Council**, all Zeta/Southern Mississippi; **Karen Tschirn Sublich**, Delta/Louisiana State; and **Maddy Campbell Owenby**, **Angela Goundas**, and **Annie Parker Watler**, all Zeta/Southern Mississippi, helped the Gulf Coast Alumnae Chapter support breast cancer research.



**Sandy Sachs Smith**, **Gloria Kahoun Turner**, and **Sally Bell Riebel**, all Alpha/Ohio State; **Janet Lowman Fox**, Gamma/Miami; and **Kitten White Ledman**, Alpha/Ohio State, attended an Ohio State basketball game together.



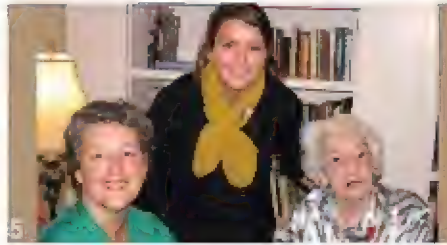
**Janis Wilbur**, Gamma/Texas Christian; **Cathy Danielson Rudder**, Alpha/Oklahoma; **Jane DeFord**, Alpha/Texas; **Cecelia Allen Gosting**, Alpha/Oklahoma; and **Yvonne Erwin Work**, Beta/SMU, of the Dallas Alumnae Chapter took a Theta Trippers excursion to Tyler Azalea Trail, Lake Palestine, Canton.



Six 1965 Beta/Michigan State initiates get together monthly to share dinner. Pictured are (front) **Gabriele Adler Pluhar**, **Susan Cooper Howe**, **Dessa Stepanovich Ossman**, (back) **Marilyn (Mim) Rouen Dimitroff**, **Sue Lyndall Sanna**, and **Kay Woodworth**.



# theta families



**1** Big sisters from **Epsilon Epsilon Chapter** at **Baylor** share initiation day with their little sisters at **Alpha Theta Chapter** at **Texas**. Pictured are **Jennifer Joseph**, **EE/Baylor**; **Jaclyn Joseph** and **Caroline Parker**, both **AE/Texas**; and **Rachel Parker**, **EE/Baylor**.

**2** **Courtney Sierk**, **BA/Arizona**; **Robyn Sierk Canfield**, **BO/Iowa**; **Taylor Canfield**, **I/Butler**; and Fraternity executive director **Elizabeth Sierk Corridan**, **BO/Iowa** and **Kara Sierk Reeder**, **ITI/Iowa State**, gathered to celebrate Taylor's initiation into **Gamma Chapter** at **Butler**.

**3** **Gamma Psi Chapter** at **Texas Christian** had a very special new initiate this year, **Molly Baker**. Baker comes from a long line of Thetas and was initiated with the badge of her great-great grandmother, **Helen Woods Baker**, **I/Cornell**. Pictured are **Cora Bronaugh Baker** (grandmother) and **Elizabeth Baker Brown** (aunt), both **A/O/Oklahoma**; **Molly Baker**, **TP/Texas Christian**; and **Anne Brown** (cousin) and **Nancy Baker Hicks** (aunt), both **A/O/Oklahoma**.

**4** **Dee Dee Peege Lee**, **TI/Kentucky**; her daughter **Casey Lee**, **AO/Texas**; **Jennifer Guerriero**, **AO/Texas**; and her mother **Jane Donosky Condon**, **BS/SMU**, attended the Saint Valentine's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show benefitting the **The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Dallas**. Lee and Condon were chairmen of the event and their daughters came to support them and the outstanding cause.

**5** Daughter **Virginia Marie Dodson Maxwell**, **BS/SMU**; granddaughter **Margaret Virginia Dodson**, **GA/Georgia**; and grandmother **Virginia Sturdivant Dodson**, **AI/Vanderbilt**, took a photo at their family Christmas celebration. When she was chapter president at **Alpha Eta** in 1937, **Virginia Sturdivant Dodson** helped colonize **Gamma Delta Chapter**, of which her granddaughter is now a member.

**6** Granddaughter **Tracey Long Carisch**, Grandmother **Letty Williamson Lybrook**, and Mother **Tish Lybrook Long**, all alumnae of **Beta Chapter** at **Indiana**, are three of their family's four generations of **Beta Chapter** Thetas. The fourth generation, Letty's mother, **Florence Wandel**

**Williamson**, was initiated at **Beta Chapter** in 1913.

**7** Three generations celebrated the newest addition to their Theta and real-life family at **Amy McCalmont's** initiation into **Gamma Delta Chapter** at **Georgia**. Pictured are **Nancy Parks Pickett**, **AI/OHio State**; **Melissa McCalmont**, **BS/SMU**; **Amy McCalmont**, **GA/Georgia**; **Bonne McCalmont**, **AI/Vanderbilt**; and **Tracy Pickett McCalmont**, **TI/Rollins**.

**8** **Christel Hamburg Scanlan**, **BI/Colorado State**; her daughters **Michelle Scanlan**, **BI/Colorado**, and **Jennifer Scanlan**, **AO/Oklahoma**; and family friend **Kathleen Gilday Clifford**, **BI/Colorado State**, celebrated Jennifer's initiation at **Oklahoma** this fall.

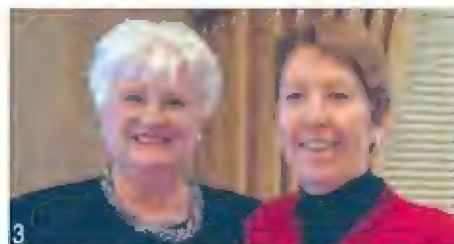
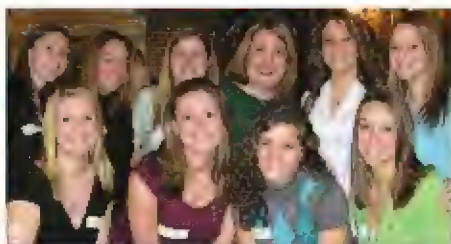
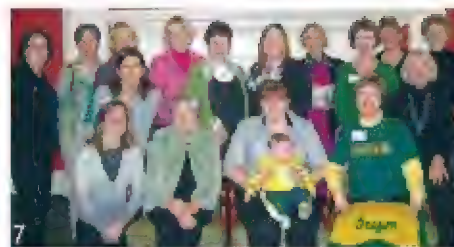
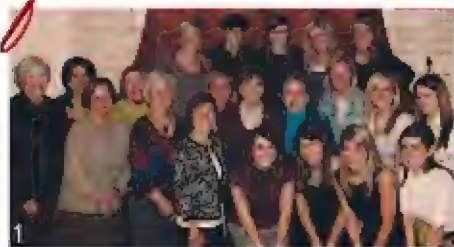
**9** **Ann Tarbutton Gerhart**, **IA/OHio Wesleyan**, left, added another Theta link to her family, when her daughter **Margaret Gerhart**, right, was initiated into **Gamma Theta Chapter** at **Carnegie Mellon**. Ann's late mother, **Margaret Michel Tarbutton**, **IA/OHio Wesleyan**, was a former member of **Grand Council**.



Inspired by meeting **Eta Xi Chapter** members at **Quinnipiac** with interests in the sports industry, **Westchester (NY) Alumnae Chapter** member **Lisa Davis Olney**, **AE/Arizona State**, arranged a unique opportunity for the collegians to visit the **ESPN Campus** in **Bristol, Conn.** Olney, whose husband works for **ESPN**, arranged a private tour. Pictured at the **SportsCenter** desk are **Olney**; **Tristen Sechi**, **Kyra Emmerich**, and **Amanda Miller**, all **HE/Quinnipiac**; **Stephanie Filardi**, **A/O/Tulane**; and **Ally Giorgio**, **Erin Joyce Brady**, **Kayla Vandervort**, and **Denise Bertrand**, all **HE/Quinnipiac**.



# founders day



**1** The Norman Alumnae Chapter and Alpha Omicron Chapter at Oklahoma celebrated Founders Day together at the chapter facility, including finger sandwiches and a chocolate fountain. Two 50-year Alpha Omicron alumnae, **Carolyn Watson Tharp** and former Fraternity president **Helen Edwards Woodward**, were also honored.

**2** Members of the Gulf Coast Alumnae Chapter gathered for a special Founders Day lunch at Al Fresco's Restaurant in Biloxi, Miss. Pictured are **Ashleigh Rogers**, **Jamie McCarty Council**, **Micki Owenby Ingram**, **Jennifer Mayo Slade**, **Amanda Acker**, and **Angela Goundas**, all ZY/Southern Mississippi; **Karen Tschirn Sablich**, ΔK/Louisiana State; **Mary Dougherty Bergin**, T1/Auburn; **Maddy Campbell Owenby**, ZY/Southern Mississippi; and **Kathryn Breard Platt**, ΔK/Louisiana State.

**3** **Ann Shull Lauterbach**, A11/Vanderbilt, and

**Suzanne Graf McLemore**, Δ11/Tennessee, both of the Nashville Alumnae Chapter, celebrated Founders Day at the chapter's annual event.

**4** The Flatirons Alumnae Chapter honored four alumnae at its Founders Day celebration: 25-year alumnae **Courtney Henderson Russell**, BQ/Iowa; 25-year alumnae **Susan Hurth Metzler**, B1/Colorado; 60-year alumnae **Barbara Geyer Wentz**, AT/Ohio State; and 62-year alumnae **Margaret "Peggy" Iden**, A1/Ohio State.

**5** The Westchester (NY) Alumnae Chapter held its third annual Founders Day celebration at Ardsley Country Club in Ardsley, NY. The alumnae celebrated with collegians from **Eta Xi Chapter** at Quinnipiac and **Kappa Alpha Theta** Foundation executive director **Jennifer Kendall Pendleton**, ΔΣ/Ball State, who gave a moving presentation on the work of the Foundation and how it has benefitted Thetas over the years. Pictured are women of the Eta Xi Chapter with

Pendleton.

**6** The Omaha Alumnae Chapter celebrated Founders Day at Happy Hollow Country Club in Omaha, Neb. The chapter recognized four 25-year Thetas and four 50-year Thetas, who are pictured.

**7** Alumnae of Alpha Xi Chapter at Oregon State celebrated Founders Day together.

**8** **Madeleine Kauders** and **Mia Livaccari**, both ΔK/Louisiana State; Fraternity vice-president college **Amy Hayner Kates**, AΦ/Tulane; Baton Rouge Alumnae Chapter president **Ashley Davis Hymel** and advisory board chairman **Leslie Campo Nichols**, both ΔK/Louisiana State, attended a very successful Founders Day celebration at Delta Kappa Chapter at Louisiana State.

**9** Members of the Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter gathered at the Gamma Chapter facility at Butler for a Founders Day ceremony



**Toren Bentson**, **Brittney Hoodack Blackburn**, and **Stephanie Hall**, all alumnae of Zeta Theta Chapter at Cal Poly, caught up at a barbecue in Palo Alto, Calif.



**Jody Dondore Plummer**, **Suzanne Clark Lunde**, **Joan Altenburger Schultz**, **Linda Murray Emmerson**, and **Jacqueline Hohenboken Young**, all Gamma Pi alumnae, returned to their alma mater Iowa State, to commemorate 50 years in Theta at the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa.



During my college days at Princeton, I spent what seemed like a lot of energy justifying and defending my energetic participation in a sorority. Now, as a long-out-of-college alumna, I still see (or imagine I see) the pauses and wondering eyebrow-raises when I mention that I am *still* an active member and volunteer for Kappa Alpha Theta. The problem is exacerbated by my geographical location—the San Francisco Bay Area is not exactly a hotbed of fraternity and sorority involvement.

Yet, for 20 years now, Theta has been an important part of my life—almost continually but to varying degrees—often joyful, challenging in many of the right ways, incredibly frustrating from time to time, yet always there. Not just a collection of hazy, fond memories from my insular and otherworldly college days, Theta has played a bigger role in my life, and I in hers, since I graduated. I fully realize that I am more the exception than the rule, not just for Theta but for most of her sister sororities, too. Very few of my Princeton Theta friends volunteer for Theta or even participate in their local alumnae chapters. So what's different about me?

As this year marks the 20th anniversary of my initiation into Theta, I thought it worth exploring why I'm still involved and why Theta still brings me joy, challenge, commitment, and a sense of purpose after all these years. In no particular order, here's what I've come up with so far. Some of the reasons are serious and some are more light-hearted; some probably apply to a large percentage of Thetas (or fraternity women in general) and some are more personally mine; regardless, here they are.

♦ Throughout the last 20 years, I have met cherished friends and mentors through Theta (and not just in college), women whom I would never have met otherwise. Jen, Karen, Mary Jane, Betsy, Carol, Miriam, Robin, Liz. . . I could go on. We're of various vintages, we live all over the country and attended different colleges, we have different lives, but Theta brought them to me, and I am richer for it.



## WHY I'M (STILL) A FRATERNITY WOMAN

by Jane Shepherd Dick, EM/Princeton

♦ In a time when men still outnumbered women on our campus, Theta allowed me to meet and get to know an assortment of women from all class years, residential colleges, areas of study, religions, non-academic interests, and talents. I didn't see eye-to-eye with all of them, and I'd be lying if I said I loved every one of them. I do know, however, that my college experience was broader because of them and that I explored my own opinions because of them.

♦ I saw first-hand the dedication and hard work of a small group of Theta alumnae who enabled us to be at Princeton. We didn't fully appreciate their hard work and watchful eyes then. I feel by continuing their example, I am repaying a portion of their efforts and love.

-Kappa Alpha Theta was a pioneering organization at its founding in 1870, in coming to Princeton in 1983, and many times in between and since. I hope that in some small way, my support will allow her to continue her pioneering ways.

-We don't get everything right. There's worthy work to be done. I can't complain about it if I'm not participating. (As my mom always chides my dad, "Do you want to be part of the solution or part of the problem?")

-I am a sucker for rituals of any kind and for Theta ritual in particular. I feel renewed attachment every time I participate in our services and gatherings.

-I feel good about myself and my contributions when I am working with Thetas.

-The Theta Foundation supports amazing women, helps give neglected, abused, and forgotten children a voice and a future, extends a loving hand-up to Thetas in times of crisis, offers continual opportunity for growth and learning; real, tangible, meaningful examples of sisterhood at its best and womanhood at its finest.

-I like the sense of belonging. Perhaps that makes me a joiner. I've been called worse.

-I never lived in a sorority house. I don't think I'd like it and might not be as involved if I had.

-I tend to be a little slow-to-warm socially, and I like the "in-commonness" I have with a group of Thetas, even if I've never met them before. It's that extra hurdle of introduction I don't have to leap over in order to feel at ease.

-We're decidedly not all the same, nor are our Theta experiences all the same.

-I think it's important to have an alumna who is from both a university with a non-traditional Greek system and the West Coast be involved. It's easy to think one-size fits all but increasingly inaccurate.

-I am professionally ambivalent and rudderless. For some reason, when I'm working on Theta projects, I feel purposeful and integral.

-I've gotten to test/grow/challenge/change my leadership wings in Theta, many times (often not in the roles I wanted but always, ultimately, for the better for me).

-There's always a way to participate, regardless of how much or how little time and energy I have.

-When I work or play with Theta, it is as Jane, not as Kevin's wife or as my kids' mom or as my parents' daughter. I love all those roles and relationships. Having a meaningful experience *outside* of them keeps me whole.

I'm sure Theta isn't the only organization that *could* mean/do/bring all these things to me. I'm just glad I have her. ♦





# Travel with us to Tucson

Join us under the desert stars.

Like Kappa Alpha Theta, Tucson exhibits timeless charm and a young heart. Demonstrating progress and innovation, as well as a friendly, caring atmosphere, the city is the ideal setting for Theta's 69<sup>th</sup> Grand Convention.

The JW Marriott Starr Pass resort hotel is located just west of an area considered to be the birthplace of Tucson and is rich with culture, history, and beauty.

Look for more Convention information in future issues of *The Magazine*; online registration will be available in February.

Thetas from Alpha  
Omicron/Oklahoma at  
Grand Convention 2008







Save the Date!

June 23 - 27, 2010

and celebrate Theta sisterhood!



Grand Convention 2010

June 23 - 27, 2010 • JW Marriott Starr Pass, Tucson, Ariz.





# MONEY MORSELS

THOUSANDS OF WOMEN—  
INCLUDING OPRAH WINFREY—  
ARE SAVORING A FINANCIAL  
SECURITY RECIPE CONCOCTED  
BY SMART COOKIES, A MONEY  
GROUP CO-FOUNDED BY  
ROBYN GUNN AND PALS

By Jan Mathew, *Illinois*



When Robyn Gunn had a bad day at school, she recalls the antidote was automatic and prescribed immediately: a shopping trip with Mom.

Decades later, malls still served as therapy for everything from a tough time at the office to post-divorce blues. But the tab was no longer on Mom, and Gunn, employed as a social worker and living in Vancouver, BC, eventually shopped her way into \$12,000 of debt. Struggling to pay bills on a limited income, she describes herself as "a financial nightmare."

"I was an only child, and my parents were very generous," says Gunn, Gamma Epsilon, Western Ontario, and a native of Oshawa, Ont. "But they never sat down and talked to me about my spending or about saving money. In their generosity, they bailed me out a few times with my credit card bills, too."

"I also spent a lot of money in my marriage and, like me, my ex-husband wasn't good with money," she adds. "After the divorce, I bought a condo with part of my settlement and blew the rest on trips and getting back into the dating scene. I remember coming back from the mall one day with a \$400 sweater set."

"Being on my own was overwhelming, and I felt out of control financially."

The catalyst for change came about three years ago, when Gunn watched an episode of *The Oprah Winfrey Show* about "debt diet." Winfrey challenged over-spenders to team up with others as a method of reining in excesses, and the message resonated with Gunn. "Ironically, I had spent hundreds of dollars on financial management books," she says. "But I had always tried doing it on my own and, being a social worker, the group concept appealed to me."

She didn't have to look far for morale support and like-minded spenders. And although the first gath-

ering of what would become the "Smart Cookies" was through word of mouth, camaraderie was instant and Gunn knew the five-woman group was something she could bank on.

"We felt we were tackling the last taboo, and that's money," says Gunn. "We'll talk to our girlfriends about anything—even sex—before we'll talk about our salaries or stock portfolios."

"Since we all felt a bit intimidated, we started the first meeting with a glass of wine," she recalls, laughing, "and then we each came clean. We went through our recent bills and disclosed our debts and struggles."

Dubbing their money group Smart Cookies, Gunn and friends decided to meet weekly. They further resolved to dig their way out of a collective \$40,000 of consumer debt, and to do so without sacrificing what they described as their "fabulous style" or social lives.

## FROM DEBT TO LIGHT

Amidst a sea of financial "gurus" and self-help blogs, Gunn believes the Smart Cookies offer a particularly appealing approach. "We're very posi-

tive about money," she says, "and it's not all about deprivation. We compare our plan to a diet—if you cut out everything, you'll have more slip-ups."

"You can live a lean life, but you still need things that will excite you."

For the Smart Cookies, reducing fat was job one. "We looked at what we really wanted to spend money on," Gunn explains. "For instance, I bought lunch and coffee every day which, most weeks, totaled about \$100. I decided that type of spending could go."

At the six-month mark, the Smart Cookies had reduced their collective debt total by \$15,000 and increased their salaries by \$45,000. Along the way, they had also earned a bonus: a group of five casual acquaintances were now close, and fiscally fitter, friends.

When they learned *The Oprah Winfrey Show* was looking for follow-up success stories, the Smart Cookies decided to submit their progress report. Several months later, Gunn was contacted by one of the show's producers, who flew to Vancouver to film a Smart Cookies segment. Next came the call worth millions: The group was invited to fly to Chicago for *The Oprah Winfrey Show*.

"We thought we'd just be acknowledged or introduced by Oprah," says



With Angela Self, Katie Dunsworth, Andrea Baxter, and Sandra Hanna, Robyn Gunn, I'E/Western Ontario (far left) founded the Smart Cookies money group.

# smart cookies



Gunn, referring to their seats in the second row of the audience. "It wasn't until a commercial break, when we saw five chairs up on stage, that we realized we would actually appear on the show.

"It was an amazing chain of events."

From there, links took on a life of their own. The Smart Cookies' Oprah debut led to appearances on MSNBC and the *Today* show, and their debt-reduction "recipe" earned endorsements from *Today's* financial editor Jean Chatzky and best-selling financial author David Bach. *The Smart Cookies' Guide To Making More Dough*, a current best-seller in Canada, was published in September 2008, and the group's story has been featured in *Money Magazine* and the *New York Daily News*.

The five Cookies also are columnists for several newspapers, including the *Metro* chain (in Canada and the United States), and Canada's *Globe and Mail* publications. And, following somewhat in the footsteps of their original muse, the Smart Cookies host their own 30-minute weekly television show—now in its second season—on Canada's W Network.

"The show focuses on practical advice for everyday situations, but there's still a lot of creativity involved," Gunn says. Segments have included helping a family manage prescription drug costs, cutting pet care expenses and veterinary insurance, and saving money for college.

"Much of what we do is about aligning values and goals," adds Gunn. "In one of my favorite episodes, we worked with a single mom who had a

one-year-old daughter. Together, we created a vision board for her that looked at where she was spending money, what she could cut out and, ultimately, what she wanted in life.

"Next, we put her on a plan to get there."

## MONEY TALKS

Although today's economic climate likely opened many ears to the Smart Cookies' message, Gunn believes the group's credo is recession-proof and offers something for every spender—from young professionals to retirees.

"Before, so many people had massive debt in order to portray an image they couldn't afford, but they weren't ready to look at their tendency to live beyond their means," she says. "If audiences take anything from us, I hope it's the fact that we need to start talking honestly about money."

These conversations, Gunn continues, are necessary at every age. "When my dad died last year, my mom had no idea about their finances," she says. "But she started with the basics, and now she even does her own e-trades online!"

By walking the talk, the Smart Cookies have made significant strides as well. All five are debt-free and, in January 2008, each gave up her respective full-time job to focus on the group's agenda. They're at work on a second book, expected to be released in January 2010, that focuses on couples and money, and they accept speaking engagements throughout Canada. A particular emphasis, says Gunn, is visiting high schools and sharing basic financial information and tips with students.

Despite a hectic pace, however, the Cookies still meet regularly—and financial "confessions" appear on the agenda, too.

"One of my 'triggers' is my dog, Lucy," says Gunn of her pampered condo-mate. "A while ago, I had a date to meet a guy for coffee and we were each bringing our dogs. I told the girls it wouldn't be expensive—maybe \$5. But I wound up spending \$150 for a new pink leash and collar for Lucy, and then decided I needed a new outfit for myself.

"Of course, I never saw the guy again."

Travel is another temptation, Gunn admits. But now, instead of loading her charge card, she waits to schedule a trip until she has the cash. "We used to spend up to \$1,000 a month on miscellaneous things," Gunn says of the group. "But now, we give ourselves \$100 a week as 'fun' money. The rule is: when you blow it, you lose it—you can't rely on credit.

"As a result, we've all become slightly obsessed with looking at our spreadsheets!"

With the long-term goal of expanding their business on an international level, particularly in the United States, Gunn feels the group's value lies in its grassroots experience and approach.

"We're sharing our knowledge so other women can feel the empowerment we felt when we got our finances in control," Gunn says. "Whether you're alone or in a partnership, you feel like a bigger person and better about your life when you're financially healthy."

## • Here's Where The Cookies Crumble •

The **Smart Cookies website**, [www.smartcookies.com](http://www.smartcookies.com), offers batches of financial tips, insights, and success stories. Following are some of the Cookies' suggestions for forming your own money group:

- **Choose women you can trust**, and invite those you know you'll enjoy. Meetings should be a chance to hang out with your favorite people.
- Determine a **regular meeting time** and date, and stay committed.
- **Set a budget** for food and drinks at each meeting, and rotate locations.

- **Create an agenda** of areas to cover each time, such as check-ins from the previous week, setting new goals, and confessing to splurges.

- **Share ideas and resources.** For example, the Smart Cookies saved thousands of dollars by sharing clothes.

- **Create a vision board** of group goals in order to stay inspired. Fill the board with photos of items you're saving for, such as a new car or vacation resort, to keep you motivated.

- **Hold each other accountable.**

- **Celebrate successes.**

(Source credits: *Chatelaine Magazine*, November 2007, and [www.smartcookies.com](http://www.smartcookies.com))



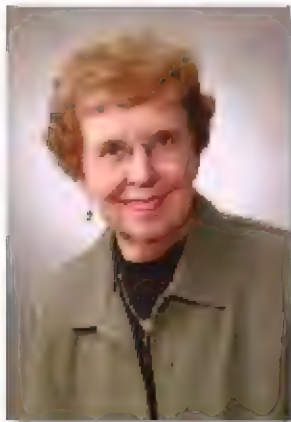
# HOW WILL YOU LIVE OUT YOUR TRUE PROMISE?

Kappa Alpha Theta's true promise is a vow, a two-way pledge between the Fraternity and each of her members. It is up to each Theta to discover and fulfill the promise within herself. So, too, is it up to each Theta to determine what the Fraternity will mean to her and how

her membership will contribute to her life.

Wanda Bash Witsitt, Delta/Illinois, is a Kappa Alpha Theta woman of true promise.

**KAPPA ALPHA THETA**  
TRUE PROMISE



Wanda Whitsitt, Δ/Illinois

## WANDA BASH WITSITT, DELTA/ILLINOIS, IS A KAPPA ALPHA THETA WOMAN OF TRUE PROMISE.

After receiving her pilot's license in 1979, Whitsitt was inspired to use her new-found love of aviation to help those in need—real, immediate need. In 1981, Whitsitt founded LifeLine Pilots, a 501 (c)(3) organization that transports people with emergencies to medical centers across the Midwest. What began as an organization of 40 pilots has grown to a volunteer base of 500. LifeLine's pilots have flown more than one million miles to assist the critically ill and their families, who otherwise couldn't have afforded the flight.

As an alumna, Whitsitt lives out her True Promise by answering the call to service—giving faith to skeptics, hope to the desperate, and love to those who need it most. How will you live out your True Promise?



*To learn more about Whitsitt and LifeLine Pilots, go to [www.lifelinepilots.org](http://www.lifelinepilots.org).*



# Are You Missing Something?



Remember your college days? Remember the good friends, the laughter, the loyalty—everything that made Theta an incredible experience? Even if you've graduated from college, the support and friendship of Theta sisterhood doesn't have to end.

"Theta for a lifetime" isn't just a catch phrase. We are always Thetas, and the bond that we share with other Thetas is strong. After college, we often lose touch with our Fraternity, but joining an alumnae chapter (or helping to start a new one!) is a great way to reconnect.

Kappa Alpha Theta alumnae chapters comprise women of all ages and from college chapters all over the continent. And alumnae chapters offer a wide range of interesting activities! To find out if there's an alumnae chapter near you, simply go to [www.kappalphatheta.org](http://www.kappalphatheta.org), choose *About Our Chapters*, and click on *Find a Chapter*. There are several search options.

Thetas in the following areas have expressed interest in forming alumnae chapters. If you would like more information, please contact Kyle Handegard, alumnae district officer extension ([kyleccci@aol.com](mailto:kyleccci@aol.com); 701-282-8652).

## **Alabama**

Mobile  
Montgomery  
Tuscaloosa

## **British Columbia**

Kelowna

## **California**

Bakersfield  
Imperial County  
Palm Springs/  
Coachella Valley  
East Bay Berkeley  
Modesto/Stockton

## **Colorado**

Grand Junction

## **Florida**

Melbourne  
Panama City  
Port St. Joe

## **Georgia**

Columbus  
Valdosta  
Macon  
Savannah

## **Iowa**

Ames  
Cedar Falls/  
Waterloo

## **Indiana**

Muncie  
Evansville

## **Kentucky**

Bowling Green

## **Maine**

Kennebunk

## **Michigan**

Ann Arbor  
Livonia/Dearborn  
Brighton

## **Mississippi**

Greenville  
Oxford  
Starkville/Columbus

## **Montana**

Idaho Falls  
Red Lodge

## **North Carolina**

Greensboro

## **North Dakota**

Bismarck

## **New York**

Albany  
Orange County  
Syracuse/Ithaca

## **Rhode Island**

Providence  
Richmond

## **South Carolina**

Beaufort County  
Hilton Head  
Columbia

## **South Dakota**

Pierre  
Rapid City

## **Texas**

Argyle  
Boerne/Fair Oaks  
Georgetown  
Odessa  
Texarkana

## **Virginia**

Charlottesville  
Roanoke  
Harrisonburg

## **Washington**

Bellingham/  
Anacortes  
Tacoma  
Bellevue

## **Wisconsin**

Madison





## In Their Own Words

### Q&A with two Thetas of note

*Dr. Lisa Sparks and Dr. Melinda McCrocklin Villagran are sisters in many ways. Both members of the Alpha Omicron Chapter at Oklahoma, they are also both professors (Villagran at George Mason in Virginia; Sparks at Chapman University and Chao Comprehensive Cancer Center/ NCI Designated at University of California, Irvine), scholars, and researchers, and they have co-authored articles and books about doctor/patient communication. They are best-known for their work on communicating about cancer.*

**Q** How did the two of you meet?

**Melinda:** I remember meeting Lisa during recruitment. She was so enthusiastic and always seemed to be having so much fun. We were completely different but I liked her instantly—everyone did.

**Lisa:** I recall that we met bid day in 1984 at the Alpha Omicron chapter. I remember eating pizza at the same table with Mel and a few others bid day night. They all seemed to know what to do and how to do it. I knew this was a new exciting chapter of my life, but I had no idea how much Theta would influence me and my life in so many positive ways.

**Q** Your latest book is called *Talking Cancer*. What did you learn while researching and writing it that surprised you?

**Melinda:** I learned that even though other countries have different health care systems, there are always problems with communication between doctors and patients. In every country it seems people still want to feel more included in their own health-care decision-making.

**Lisa:** I learned quite a bit more about Latino/Latina health beliefs. Our book is targeted toward Hispanics worldwide, and the health care and belief systems are quite different when comparing and understanding subtle nuances of Hispanic immigrants here in the US as compared to different countries in Latin America and Europe.

**Q** What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?

**Melinda:** A figure skater. Oh wait—back

to reality—a doctor. I am a doctor of sorts (PhD,) but my kids say I'm not the kind of doctor that does anybody any good. Our work on communication in the doctor/patient relationship has given me evidence that it is easier to criticize doctors than it is to actually walk a day in their shoes. I think I would like a chance to really practice the art and science of medicine.

**Lisa:** Many people who know me would say I would be a lawyer because I come from an entire family of attorneys. However, the real answer is that I would have loved to be good enough to be a professional tennis player or Olympic-level marathoner. Something like a female Lance Armstrong, in fact! The truth is that I try to make a positive difference in people's lives that is based on research evidence and translated into practice, so I have most certainly chosen the right profession!

**Q** What is the accomplishment of which you're most proud?

**Lisa:** I am proud that I continue to strive to achieve my personal best in all that I do. Talking with cancer patients and family members is a very humbling and rewarding experience. Each patient and family member teaches me something about life and sometimes about death. I am proud that I stood by my father at nearly every appointment and hospital visit as he was dying of cancer during the same time that I had a new baby and was writing my dissertation. These experiences have shown me that each day of life is a blessing. I try to live each day with as much vitality as possible!

**Melinda:** I am very goal-directed; I am most proud of my ability to do just about anything I choose to do. I honestly believe all women can do whatever they want, but the part we struggle with is that it is pretty tough to do everything at once. I guess I have a good work ethic, and that has served me well. When I am charged up about an idea or a project, I can't even sleep sometimes because I am thinking about how to make my idea into a reality.

**Q** What is your favorite word?

**Lisa:** My favorite word of the moment is *unpack*, as my graduate students will tell you! I use it frequently to describe the further understanding of a concept, construct, theory, or methodology. "Let's 'unpack' this or that so we can better understand the underlying principles in terms of what is really going on here!"

*continued, page 25*





by Margo Papadakos Koupas, A/llinois, Project Manager, Allstate Insurance

## ECONOMIC ABUSE

### AN OFTEN-OVERLOOKED ASPECT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

*"It started with arguments at home, and, little by little, the problem got worse," says Carmela, a domestic violence survivor. "When the abuse started, it was very difficult for me to imagine leaving, and so I slowly started to accept it. I started seeing it as normal when he would kick and hit me."*

Carmela's experience is all too common.

Nearly 75 percent of Americans, including members of Kappa Alpha Theta, have experienced domestic violence or have a friend, co-worker, or family member who has been impacted by domestic violence.

While many associate domestic violence with stories such as Carmela's, there is an often-overlooked aspect of domestic violence that doesn't result in visible cuts or bruises, yet causes significant long-term damage. It is economic abuse, and it is one of the most common ways an abuser prevents a victim from leaving a dangerous relationship. Economic abuse takes on many forms, from controlling a victim's paycheck to purposely destroying a victim's credit, and it effectively blocks access to money and other financial resources.

"A main reason why many victims stay in abusive relationships is because they lack the resources for basic essentials, such as shelter and food for themselves and—most importantly—their children," says Jennifer Kuhn, Economics Against Abuse Program Manager, The Allstate Foundation. "Abusers not only bruise victims physically, but often bruise their credit and self-esteem so they feel they have no choice other than to remain in a dangerous situation."

Tough economic times offer even

greater risk to domestic violence victims and survivors. A downturn in an economy disproportionately impacts domestic violence victims and survivors by placing additional stressors on already volatile relationships. It also creates an extremely competitive job market that often puts survivors with limited or no work experience at a disadvantage.

Building financial independence is a long-term solution for domestic violence survivors to become and remain free from violence. According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, women with financial skills have an increased chance of leaving an abusive situation and sustaining themselves and their families on a long-term basis.

For the past four years, The Allstate Foundation has been committed to providing knowledge and skills—particularly those related to financial empowerment—to support survivors of domestic violence.

A key component of the program is "Tell a Gal PAL," a public-awareness campaign that encourages all Americans to talk openly, or "Pass it on, Act & Learn," about domestic violence and how economic empowerment can provide a path to a safe future for survivors.

"Many people think domestic violence is a 'don't ask, don't tell' issue that doesn't affect them. The truth is,



you probably know someone who has been a victim of domestic violence or is affected by it, but you haven't discussed it," says Kuhn. "People don't talk about domestic violence because they're embarrassed that they stayed in a relationship or that they even got to that point in the first place. It is our job to make them comfortable enough about the issue to ask for help."

Women with a support system, like Kappa Alpha Theta, in place have the ability to help other women live a life free of domestic violence. We can help our sisters—essentially our gal pals—to educate themselves on domestic violence and economic abuse. Through "Tell a Gal PAL," we can give our sisters the courage to help others or themselves to seek assistance or make a world of difference to survivors who are trying to move on and become financially independent. We can talk to our families, friends, neighbors, and co-workers about the chilling facts: one in four women will be affected by domestic violence in her lifetime, and 15.5 million children wit-

ness domestic violence against their mothers.

According to Carmela, the fact that her children witnessed the constant abuse was the one thing that devastated her the most, a sentiment that many survivors share.

## TIPS AND RESOURCES

Visit [www.ClickToEmpower.org](http://www.ClickToEmpower.org) (a service of The Allstate Foundation) for information on economic empowerment for domestic violence survivors, as well as tips on ways to "Tell a Gal PAL" about domestic and economic abuse.

If you or someone you know needs help leaving an abusive situation, The Allstate Foundation Economics Against Abuse Program offers the following strategies.

- Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-SAFE, to find a local domestic violence program and learn about resources (such as emergency assistance funds), shelter, public benefits and affordable housing.

- Get a copy of your credit report

and monitor your credit often. You can request a free copy at [www.annual-creditreport.com](http://www.annual-creditreport.com) or 877-322-8228. Most financial institutions also provide low-cost credit-monitoring services.

- Open a post office box—and change your mailing address—for any financial information you may receive before or after you leave an abusive situation. You can get one from the US Postal Service or vendors including Parcel Plus or the UPS Store.

- Contact financial institutions and utility companies, including your cell-phone service, to secure your private information with new PIN codes and passwords. Change ATM and debit-card PIN codes and the passwords for e-mail and online banking accounts.

- Make necessary changes to your insurance plans, will or trust beneficiaries, appointing a new person if your abuser used to be your designee.

If you are in a domestic violence situation and need immediate assistance, please contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-SAFE. ♦

*continued from page 25*

**Melinda:** *Finished.* I love when the day is finished and my family is tucked in bed. My husband is an Air Force officer, and I love it when his latest deployment is finished. I love it when I finish teaching a class, or working on a research project. It just feels good to know that things are completed, and they came out well.

**Q** What is your least favorite word?

**Melinda:** *Traffic.* I am relatively new to the DC area, and I must say I will never get used to the traffic. It makes me crazy.

**Lisa:** *Hate.* I despise the word hate. It is a very negative word that is used too frequently.

**Q** Who are your heroes in real life?

**Lisa:** Cancer patients and their family members are my heroes, as well as people with other extreme health conditions that dramatically change everyday living. Soldiers and their family members who serve and protect my country. Of course, my parents also come to mind. My husband, Daniele, comes to mind. My daughters, Elena, Arianna, and Athena,

come to mind. My friend Melinda comes to mind.

**Melinda:** A couple of years ago I worked on a health communication initiative to promote free mammograms for women in the poorest communities along the Texas/Mexico border. I got the chance to interview some amazing women for that project who really taught me a lot about what it means to push through illness and maintain a sense of self-despite being labeled with the "C" word (cancer). One woman in particular talked about how important it was to her that she was still able to wash and fold her kids' clothes despite her Stage 4 breast cancer. She could barely lift her arms, but she believed she could maintain the strength to fight cancer as long as she could keep looking after her kids. I think it was the piece of her identity she refused to give up despite having cancer. My heroes are always really strong people, and she was among the strongest-willed people I have ever met.

**Q** What do you most value in your friends?

**Lisa:** Loyalty, honesty, spirituality, integri-

ty, character, determination, and kindness, plus an ability to not take themselves too seriously ...we all need to laugh a little!

**Melinda:** Openness, honesty, loyalty, humor, humor, humor. My life is crazy, so I most enjoy friends who can make me laugh at myself a little.

**Q** What is your favorite Theta memory?

**Melinda:** Bid Day. Madonna (the singer) was brand new and we drove around in a convertible with the top down singing *Lucky Star* at the top of our lungs. I felt like I was beginning something really special.

**Lisa:** I have so many, but I remember the wonderful conversations and bonding experiences that Theta provided: from study hall hours and late-night study sessions to intramural basketball and football games to Bible study to late-night chatting to social events! I truly think that Theta helped shape my intellectual and social growth as well as built on the character traits my parents had already ingrained in me. I am thankful to the Fraternity for all she has done for me and others along the way. ♦



# REMEMBER....

## CONVENTION MEMENTOS BECOME PRIZED POSSESSIONS

By Mary Edith Estes Arnold, AM/Missouri,  
Fraternity Archivist

An alumna delegate, who attended the Fraternity's 1922 Grand Convention at Lake Placid, remarked in *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*....

"There is only one thing in fraternity life that is better for Thetas than going to a convention; that is going to two conventions. Try it."

And many have. In fact, some loyal Thetas to this day attend every convention they can.

Delegates, leaders, and visiting members have been gathering in convention since the Fraternity's earliest years, to determine future policies, update our structure, elect officers, and learn ... both about and from each other.

The earliest conventions—in the 1870s and 1880s—were hosted by Midwestern chapters. Horse-drawn conveyances and trains were the modes of transportation. But as the Fraternity expanded, the range of convention destinations expanded as well. Beginning in 1911, special trains carried delegates and visitors from hubs like Los Angeles and Chicago to destinations—large cities, mountains, coasts, and deserts—across the continent.

During their travels to convention, attendees might spot Theta emblems—on hats, collars, or wrists—in places like St. Louis or the Grand Canyon. One attendee remarked in 1915, "... so many traveled in the same direction, we were constantly being hailed in some strange city by a Theta whistle or stopped short on the

street or trolley car by the sight of a good old kite." Ultimately, those mementos—buttons, brooches, pins, and bracelets—were carefully tucked away in jewelry boxes, either to be worn again or simply saved as souvenirs.

In this century, Thetas continue to gather in convention every other year. But we travel by air or automobile and arrive at our destination within hours, not days. Like our sisters of earlier centuries, we, too, are enriched in our understanding of Theta sisterhood. We see a bright future in the competent hands of our collegians and devoted alumnae. At the final banquet we join a mystic circle, hand-in-hand with sisters from all across our continent. And we, too, carry home mementos—to help us remember.... ♦



Above: silver spoon commemorating the Fraternity's centennial from Theta's 49th Convention in Coronado, Calif.; right: medal from Grand Convention 1948 in Mackinac, Mich.; below: comb and nail file case from Grand Convention 1956 in Banff Springs, Alberta, Canada; left: pin from the 20th Grand Convention, held in Chicago.







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# THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

## PERMANENT ALUMNAE SECRETARIES

A permanent alumnae secretary (PAS) maintains records of all initiated members of a given chapter. In this way, these officers of the Fraternity ensure that each alumna remains in touch with Theta.

Congratulations to these permanent alumnae secretaries who recently received awards for service.

### 5 YEARS

Amanda McFall Burgess	ZΨ/Southern Mississippi
Allison Fitch Proud	ZT/Delaware
Rebecca Ann Reddick	BA/William & Mary

### 10 YEARS

Jennifer VanHorn Dorris	EΩ/Washington & Jefferson
Elizabeth Anne Farrington	ΔΞ/North Carolina
Carol Zimmerly Graham	EΘ/Stetson
Lisa Edelmann McLaughlin	BP/Duke
Marsha Rehm Nemitz	AA/Washington
Julie Maguire Vallejo	EH/Centre College

### 15 YEARS

Kelli Stewart Crowe	ZΠ/Furman
Jill Weiskopf Riley	ZO/Wake Forest
Mary Bissell Szkalak	AP/South Dakota
Mary Alexander Wilhelm	ΔM/Rhode Island

### 20 YEARS

Meriwether Bruce Brown	Ξ/Wesleyan
Nancy Tate Bumpous	ΔΠ/Tennessee
Carol Capshaw Hudson	ΓT/Tulsa

### 25 YEARS

Nancy Bush Millhouse	ΓΥ/Miami
Rebecca Hargis Moses	BB/Randolph-Macon
Renee Bergenheier Underwood	ΓΦ/Texas Tech

### 30 YEARS

Roberta Hutton Hodges	AN/Montana
Maggie Price Kellogg	ΓP/UC Santa Barbara
Betsy Boardman Ross	Φ/Stanford (1891-1944)
Lorna Kiech Wallen	BΞ/UCLA

## CHAPTERS NEEDING PERMANENT ALUMNAE SECRETARIES

BK/Drake  
ΔΞ/Texas A&M  
HK/John Carroll

For more information about or to volunteer for a permanent alumnae secretary position, please contact Lou Simpson, 248-642-2468, or [LWetstein@msn.com](mailto:LWetstein@msn.com).





## IN MEMORIAM

### **A/DePauw**

Rosemary Sourwine Barickman; 1947, Dec. 2008  
Allison Collet; 2002, March 2009  
Patricia Johnson Shinnar; 1939, February 2009  
Lois Southard Snelson; 1957, November 2008

### **B/Indiana**

Susan Minner Browning; 1981, April 2009

### **C/Butler**

Judith Walls Martin; 1957, January 2009  
Helen Beasley Welcher; 1929, January 2009

### **H/Michigan**

Sally Dalton Lang; 1948, January 2009

### **K/Kansas**

Nancy Neville Adams; 1943, February 2009  
Barbara Halfner Beck; 1945, October 2008  
Mary Nicholson LeCuyer; 1934, October 2008  
Marilyn Casebier Lee; 1942, September 2008  
Barbara Ramsey Magoun; 1949, August 2008

### **A/Vermont**

Elizabeth Dole Durfee; 1943, October 2008

### **E/Ohio Wesleyan**

Elizabeth Huffman Gaumer; 1934, February 2009  
Katherine Heym Horgan; 1963, January 2009  
Helen Dittler McGinnis; 1942, January 2009  
Jory Miller Young; 1969, March 2008

### **M/Allegheny**

M. Christine Neuman; 1974, March 2009

### **O/USC**

Alanna Liebhardt Grunow; 1967, July 2008  
Jean Kircher Oleson; 1955, August 2008  
Marianne Lewis Shaver; 1951, November 2008

### **P/Nebraska**

Josephine Thomas Millson; 1927, January 2008  
Marie Christensen Robb; 1938, November 2008

### **T/Northwestern**

Patricia Rice Cameron; 1945, January 2009  
Lora Willis Clay; 1938, February 2009  
Margaret Hickman Guyton; 1928, March 2009  
Helen Evans Harrison; 1946, February 2008  
Eloise Delacy Joyce; 1942, March 2009  
Phyllis Stevens Kratz; 1937, November 2008

### **Y/Minnesota**

Ann Coffman Kiser; 1948, December 2008

### **W/Wisconsin**

Jean Grootemoot Newell; 1940, September 2008  
Jeanne Henkel Seefeld; 1936, January 2009

### **U/UC Berkeley**

Jean Hubbard Nelson; 1940, July 2008

### **A/Ohio State**

Mary Wilson McConkey; 1940, March 2008  
Susan Gould Slotzer; 1953, November 2008

### **A/Goucher**

Roana Bass Hayes; 1929, April 2008  
Ann Hunt Schwartz; 1941, November 2008

### **A/Vanderbilt**

Sarah Dallas Holliday; 1943, January 2009  
Gayle Gayden McFarlin; 1941, November 2008  
Mary Farris Robbins; 1936, April 2009

### **A/Texas**

Joanna Keith Fabling; 1941, June 2008  
Georgette Covo Browder Goble; 1941, March 2009  
Barbara Allen Owen; 1952, December 2008  
Meador Hamilton Veltmann; 1933, October 2008  
Loise Henderson Wessendorff; 1941, December 2008  
Jane Ashby Wiggins; 1945, December 2008

### **A/Washington-St. Louis**

Elizabeth Greenland Shaver; 1932, February 2009  
Jane Fisher Cox Smith; 1935, February 2009

### **A/Washington**

Phoebe Quigley Gilbert; 1941, January 2009  
Diane Kendall Hunt; 1949, August 2008

### **A/Missouri**

Margaret Fry Behrens; 1951, October 2008  
Jean Stokes Howell; 1937, February 2009  
Frances Byers Lamkin; 1933, November 2008

### **A/N/Montana**

Evelyn Herbig Holzknecht; 1950, February 2009

### **A/E/Oregon**

Janet Parker Fuhrman; 1942, January 2009

### **A/O/Oklahoma**

Margaret Duval Bonham; 1932, September 2008  
Elaine Holly Creed; 1955, February 2009  
Lyn Hampton Ellis Dean; 1943, December 2008  
Sherri Dicks Little; 1963, February 2009  
Helen Focht Reeburgh; 1934, February 2009  
Virginia Ambrose Savage; 1935, October 2008  
Katherine Finney Stannard; 1944, January 2009

### **A/N/North Dakota**

Margaret Benson Hawkins; 1937, April 2008

### **A/P/South Dakota**

Helen Doolittle Celler; 1934, November 2008  
Doris Benson Layse; 1952, February 2009  
Barbara Bristol Seaton; 1945, February 2009

### **A/Washington State**

Constance Fischer Losvar; 1942, November 2008

### **A/T/Cincinnati**

Hope Burkhardt Kain Fjord; 1941, January 2009  
Mary Wuest Root; 1927, October 2008  
Mary Cortright Sterneberg; 1939, January 2009

### **A/Y/Washburn**

Margaret Coleman Moses; 1935, October 2008

### **A/X/Purdue**

Susan Meller McLaughlin; 1952, December 2008  
Jeanne Woodburn Ogden; 1950, February 2009  
Mary Jane George Rieth; 1937, December 2008

### **A/W/Lawrence**

Helen Senn Walton; 1931, February 2009

### **B/Randolph-Macon Women's College**

Elmer Hill Manson; 1953, April 2009

### **B/C/Colorado State**

Margaret McCoy Balson; 1940, February 2009  
Alice Auld Young; 1930, November 2008

### **B/A/Arizona**

Jeanne Richey Christian; 1938, October 2008  
Lisa Lindsey Whitworth Dodds; 1973, March 2009  
Kristina Karen Edlund; 1965, January 2009  
Marilyn Clark Glenn; 1946, March 2009

### **B/E/Oregon State**

Penelope Henderson Britton; 1961, December 2008  
Joyce Wollum Stent; 1943, January 2009

### **B/Z/Oklahoma State**

Virginia Mills Rackley; 1930, December 2008  
Lenora Short Thorsen; 1936, February 2009

### **B/O/Idaho**

Kathleen Werry Wise; 1940, September 2008

### **B/I/Colorado**

Jean Gilhams Downing; 1944, November 2008  
Margaret Beckley Wallace; 1950, February 2009

### **B/K/Drake**

Betty Miller Derrick; 1936, March 2009  
Dorothy Arnold Ferryman; 1945, January 2009

### **B/A/William & Mary**

Margaret Wilson Knele; 1933, August 2008  
Beverly Coleman Jones McCoig; 1939 Dec. 2008  
Viola Barrett Greenland Pope; 1928, August 2008  
Barbara Sanford Viehman; 1942, December 2008

### **B/N/Nevada**

Lois Downs Barrett; 1936, January 2009  
Marilyn Amodai Cusick; 1944, November 2008  
Mary Morrison Dannan; 1965, November 2008  
Betty Howell Woodburn; 1932, June 2008

### **B/N/Florida State**

Helen Amato; 1955, September 2008

### **B/E/UCLA**

Margery Hall Dierkes; 1938, December 2008  
Patricia Harwell Garver; 1951, December 2008

### **B/O/Iowa**

Jacqueline Doran Erbe; 1941, February 2009  
Constance M. Turner, MD; 1937, December 2008

### **B/I/Michigan State**

Jean Lumsden Valrance; 1941, February 2009  
Patricia Coryell Walton; 1944, January 2009

### **B/P/Duke**

Patricia Read Heath; 1939, August 2008

### **B/I/Denison**

Betty Miller Jeffrey; 1951, May 2008  
Lynnebeth Olwin Mays; 1949, May 2008  
Jane Pratt Parker; 1946, January 2009  
Janet Rea Slater; 1945, December 2008  
Helen Corley Tiedeman; 1932, February 2009

### **B/O/Colorado College**

Betty Bucher Parker; 1940, May 2008

### **C/T/Rollins**

Ann Archer Pudy; 1981, February 2009

### **C/H/Massachusetts**

Priscilla Burnett Pallicioffi; 1947, July 2008

### **C/O/Carnegie-Mellon**

Catherine Mophy Briggs; 1947, August 2008

### **C/K/Kentucky**

Marcia Giovanni Strid; 1957, August 2008

### **C/K/George Washington**

Patronienne McNally Neal; 1949, November 2008

### **C/N/North Dakota State**

Marian Stenme Rellan; 1947, March 2009

### **C/E/San Jose State**

Barbara Marie Welch; 1957, December 2008

### **C/I/Iowa State**

Mary Cele Harvey Marshall; 1948, February 2008  
Lynn Vandenberg; 1980, May 2007

### **C/T/Tulsa**

Mary Beth Weddle Wing; 1953, January 2009

### **C/O/Texas Tech**

Shirley Richards Andrews; 1964, January 2009  
Marion Donaldson Furr; 1953, January 2009

### **C/P/TCU**

Ann Hazelwood Regina; 1961, January 2009  
Sally Snyder Stremming; 1966, January 2009  
Linda Walker Winter; 1968, January 2009

### **C/O/Auburn**

Kristine Aure Cunningham; 1974, July 2007

### **A/Z/Emory**

Claire Malone Short; 1959, March 2009

### **E/O/Chicago**

Emma A. Stanger; 2008, March 2009

*Dates represent year of initiation and month and year of death.*





The  
Gamma Omega  
Chapter is  
Re-established at  
Auburn University

## Kites Flying High



AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY

The weekend of April 2 was an exciting time for new and old Gamma Omega Chapter members and Thetas everywhere as we welcomed our 125th active college chapter to the Auburn University campus in Alabama. The installation activities began on Thursday evening with the Loyalty Service. The service was conducted by Educational Leadership Consultant (ELC), Nicci Pannier, Delta Epsilon/Arizona State, with the help of other ELCs and local alumnae. Following the service, new members, alumnae, and ELCs enjoyed simple refreshments.

Initiation began early on Saturday, April 4. With help of alumnae and collegians from the Delta Zeta Chapter at Emory and the Delta Omicron Chapter at Alabama, the 121 charter members of Gamma Omega were initiated into Kappa Alpha Theta. Newly initiated members enjoyed refreshments and gifts as they were welcomed by alumnae in a post-initiation reception. Following initiation, the chapter was re-installed in a chartering service conducted by former Fraternity President and current NPC Delegate Mary Jane Parker Beach, Beta Nu/Florida State.

At the conclusion of the charter service, the newly initiated members welcomed nearly 300 friends and family members of the new initiates, local alumnae, representatives from the Panhellenic executive council, Greek organization presidents and officers, and campus faculty and administration. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres in the new Student Center prior to the installation celebration service conducted by former Fraternity President Karen Albrecht Ledbetter, Gamma Tau/Tulsa. The celebration began with a brief history of Kappa Alpha Theta; this was followed by the Founder's Toast, for which newly initiated Gamma Omega members Lauren Lathem, Katherine Morgan, Jennifer Reynolds, and Katherine Williams each lit a candle in recognition and memory of the "valor and devotion" of our founders.

Letters welcoming Gamma Omega were read from the Alpha Chapter (the oldest chapter), the Eta Sigma Chapter (the newest chapter) and the Delta Omicron Chapter (the other Alabama chapter). Foundation President Wendy Sears

Goshert, Gamma/Butler, offered greetings to the new chapter on behalf of the Foundation. This was followed by a speech by Jill Moore, Auburn University associate director of Greek Life, as she welcomed the newly initiated women not only to Auburn University's Greek system but to the NPC community.

Newly initiated members then presented ELCs Jaryn Jech, Beta Zeta/Oklahoma State; Mallory Lickey, Epsilon Omicron/Randolph-Macon; and Caroline Redmond, Delta Phi/Clemson, with kind messages from colony members and scrapbooks. "Having the opportunity to watch 121 women learn and grow over the course of eight weeks and then be initiated in to the Fraternity as members and sisters has been so rewarding," said Jech. She, along with Mallory Lickey and Caroline Redmond, have been based in Auburn since January, working on the colonization and installation efforts as well as providing continuous support to the new chapter. Auburn Alumnae Chapter President Rebecca Dowdy, Gamma Omega/Auburn, said, "We were all impressed with the installation team from Kappa Alpha Theta and the commitment they have shown to the successful re-establishment of the Gamma Omega Chapter. The alumnae are looking forward to continuing to support this chapter in its future growth and success. I learned over the course of the weekend that Theta truly is for a lifetime." To conclude the celebration, newly initiated members were introduced, received their membership certificates and signed the charter.

Thank you to the Fraternity officers, educational leadership consultants, and staff members who served on the installation team but were not mentioned above: Christa Dell Sobon, Delta Zeta/Emory, college district president; Lisa Mello, Gamma Phi/Texas Tech, director of risk management; Ashley Jones, Alpha Tau/Cincinnati, public relations district director; Liz Bush, Epsilon Psi/Richmond, public relations district director; Clare Edwards, Gamma Psi/TCU, education district director; and Jennifer Broughton, Gamma/Butler, assistant director of chapter services. ♦

Above: Newly initiated Gamma Omega members proudly display the charter of their reinstalled chapter.



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